British Packet

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

(No. 1037. BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, JULY 4th, 1846. *Established in* 1826.)

BUENOS AYRES.

THE PARAGUAY QUESTION.

ARTICLE III.

At length the event which had been looked forward to as the termination of the estrangement of Paraguay from the national union, came to pass. On the 20th of Sept., 1840, death put a period to Francia's reign of terror. It was natural to expect that this consummation would be the signal for the expression of the most lively joy on the part of the Paraguayans. Far from this, however, such had been the debasing effects of 26 years of unmitigated servitude that, instead of songs of exultation, only the loud wail of mourning was heard, just as if a national calamity had occurred. This state of moral prostration, it will be readily conceived, afforded an opportunity for the gratification of individual ambition, which is seldom allowed to pass unimproved. Whether the present instance was one of those rare exceptions we will not take upon ourselves to pronounce; but the reader will be enabled to form his own opinion from the relation of the events that ensued.

After a provisional regime of a few months' duration, another of those Congresses so graphically described by Mr. Robertson, was convened; and the result of its deliberations was the installation of a joint Consulship, such as existed before Francia became lord paramount. The office was to continue for three years—the incumbents to be Don Carlos Antonio Lopez and Don Mariano Roque Alonzo.

The first steps of the new rulers were of a sufficiently liberal nature to warrant the hope that Paraguay was at length about to resume its station among the members of the Argentine family. The delay in making the avowal was readily accounted for, in the opinion of the sanguine, by the peculiar circumstances of the country; and nothing occurred to inspire a doubt till Christmas, 1842, when lo! another Congress was convoked, and most unexpectedly Paraguay was *for the first time* declared to be an "independent nation," without a single grievance being alledged to justify its violent separation from the political association to which it had pledged itself to remain "indissolubly" attached! This step was the forerunner of a very important change in the administration of government. An associate in supreme power, especially in Consulships, though he be a mere cypher, has always proved to be a rather irksome encumbrance. The inconvenience was experienced by Bonaparte in the case of Sieyes, by Francia in that of Yegros, and was also felt by Signior Lopez with his colleague, Alonzo. On the expiration of the three years, therefore, another Congress was called together; Signior Alonzo was relieved from the cares of office; and Signior Lopez became President with powers ample enough to render him as absolute as Francia, if he chose to wield them. It is but fair, however, to state that the greatest latitude he has yet given to the exercise of those powers has been to declare war against the Argentine Confederation, and make the two staple articles of Paraguay produce—yerba and timber—state monopolies.

History furnishes no example of a proceeding so arbitrary and unjustifiable as that of Paraguay. The case of Texas, in our own times, bears no analogy to it. Mexico violated the federal compact, and denied Texas the right of regulating its internal concerns, which it had reserved to itself; whereas Buenos Ayres never interfered with the domestic administration of Paraguay. Again, Mexico invaded Texas for the purpose of subjecting it to a system of centralization which it abhorred, and Texas was obliged to take up arms to defend its soil and its institutions; whereas Buenos Ayres, from the moment the Spanish authorities were ejected, never committed a single hostile act against it, but, on the contrary, uniformly opposed a magnanimous forbearance to the most irritating aggressions. In order to find a parallel it is necessary to suppose a case. Were the people of Michigan to-morrow from some odd caprice, to take it into their heads to refuse all intercourse with the other States of the American Union, and, after a lapse of years, to declare themselves independent, demanding at the same time of the United States the free navigation of the Mississippi, they would do nothing more outrageously preposterous than what has been done by Paraguay. No one would think of blaming the United States for resisting such a rash pretension, and the same principles which would justify them in combating it to the last extremity, may, with equal reason, be invoked by the Argentine government to vindicate its right to withhold its consent to the dismemberment of Paraguay.

But the Government of Buenos Ayres, in declining to sanction the separation of Paraguay, did not lay so much stress upon the principle of the *uti possidetis* at the period of the emancipation, which forms the basis of all the nationalities that have grown out of the triumph of the cause of independence; or upon the subsequent compact of "indissoluble alliance and federation" concluded between Paraguay and the sister provinces, as upon the urgent motives of common security and expediency, which forbade its acquiescence. The evils to be apprehended from a subdivision of nationalities are, it must be acknowledged, too obvious not to call attention, particularly at a time when the independence of the new States is so seriously threatened; and the difficulty of reconciling the separation of Paraguay with the mutual interests of both countries, it is equally evident, becomes unsurmountable when the peculiar geographical position of the former is taken into account, especially as regards the navigation of the Paraná. These considerations had, as it was but just they should have, due weight in the councils of the Argentine Government; but the declaration of its refusal to accede to the wishes of Paraguay was coupled with the assurance that the arms of the Confederation should never disturb the quiet of that province. Indeed, so eager was the Government of Buenos Ayres to evince to that of Paraguay the fraternal feelings with which it was animated towards it, that the latter having signified that it stood in great need of a large quantity of arms for its internal security, it ordered them to be immediately purchased and forwarded to Assumption, generously waiting the convenience of Paraguay for the money to be refunded.

Nor were other evidences of the kind disposition of Buenos Ayres wanting. At a time when the navigation of the Parana was fraught with inconvenience to the Confederation, from the danger of furnishing supplies to an enemy, the Province of Corrientes being then in a state of insurrection, the Argentine Government, at the earnest request of that of Paraguay, consented to open the route to the latter province. But this considerate regard for the commercial interests of Paraguay met with a most ungrateful return, which superinduced results that cannot be sufficiently lamented. Notwithstanding the implicit guarantee given by the Paraguayan government, Argentime vessels and cargoes were allowed to be confiscated with scarcely a remonstrance; and to crown the offence, Paraguay, in violation of the neutrality it professed, and regardless of the rights of the Confederation, entered into a convention wtth the dissident province, for the purpose of monopolising the Paraná trade. This unprovoked act of hostility was, very naturally, resented by the Argentine government; and all commercial intercourse with Paraguay was prohibited; though this interedict was only to remain in force during the continuance of the hostilities with Corrientes.

Such was the state of things, when the disastrous Anglo-French intervention declared itself in the River Plate. Paraguay then, with an ignobleness, and treachery to the American cause, only equalled by the baseness and recreancy of Rivera at the period of the French blockade, issued a declaration of war against the Argentine Confederation, without alledging any other justification than the *possibility* of the victorious army of General Urquiza, after the pacification of Corrientes, being destined to invade the Paraguayan territory.

This gratuitous and aggravating provocation was answered by the Government of Buenos Ayres with one of those traits of generous forbearance so characteristic of its policy towards Paraguay. The Argentine General was directed on no account to cross the Paraguayan frontier, and to confine his hostilities wholly to the enemy's forces found in the Correntino territory! That this injunction was faithfully complied with is a matter of notoriety; General Urquiza having suspended his triumphant marches in pursuit of the combined army, after the defeat of their advance guard, the moment they reached the boundary line of the two provinces.

In the mean time, the Chargé d'Affaires of the United States, the Hon. Wm. Brent, Jr., ever solicitous for the welfare of these countries, and shocked at the prospect of a fratricidal war whose certain effects would be to enfeeble both parties and render them an easy prey to European ambition, very humanely came forward and proffered the mediation of the American Government with the view of bringing about a pacific and mutually advantageous arrangement. This kind interposition was cordially appreciated and accepted with alacrity by the Government of Buenos Ayres, but the march of the negociation was at an early stage interrupted by the appearance of another (*soi-disant*) mediator in the

person of Mr. Hopkins.* During the delay occasioned by this intrusion events occurred in Corrientes which entirely changed the aspect of affairs; the coalition being abruptly broken up, and the Paraguayan army withdrawn. Notwithstanding the vantage-ground on which the Confederation then stood, its pacific sentiments underwent no change; on the contrary Mr. Brent met with the most hearty disposition on the part of the Argentine Government to co-operate in the promotion of his benevolent views. The affairs of the mediation have, accordingly, received a fresh impulse; and in furtherance of the objects thereof, Col. Joseph Graham, Consul of the U. S., and Mr. Geo. Lee Brent, Secretary of the Lgation, were despatched, about three weeks since, to Paraguay, by the Chargé d'Affaires. The result, we trust, will be such as to realize the most sanguine anticipations of the venerable gentleman who is about to leave our shores; affording him in his retirement, and in the evening of his well-spent life, the gratifying consolation of having been, during his sojourn amongst us, instrumental, under Divine Providence, in accomplishing an object equally dear to the Christian and the American patriot.

* This shatterbrained coxcomb, through the interest of his father, the Bishop of Vermont, was sent in a private capacity, but in the pay of the United States Government, to Paraguay, for the purpose of reporting upon the state of that country. During his short stay at Assumption he contrived to insinuate himself into the good graces of President Lopez, and pass himself off as a diplomatic Ageut. Assuming this character he offered Signior Lopez the mediation of the United States for the arrangement of the difficulties existing with the Argentine Government; which the former readily accepted. Upon this he proceeded *via* Rio Janeiro to Buenos Ayres, quite inflated with his own importance. As soon as he arrived here he attempted to commence negociations; but the Argentine Government finding, on inquiry, that he was unprovided with credentials politely declined to transact any official business with him, though it was willing at the same time to receive any confidential communication he might be desirous of making, and to give in the same confidential manner any explanations he might be anxious to obtain. This circumspection gave mortal umbrage to the would-be diplomatist, who went off in great haste, leaving a letter, couched in the most insulting language, addressed to General Rosas, notwithstanding that the latter as well as his daughter had shewn him numerous and unmerited attentions. He gave a further vent to his resentment on reaching Montevideo; but we hear that after arriving at Rio and being lectured, we presume, by Mr. Wise, he has written back requesting to withdraw those letters, and frankly owing that he had no authority for what he had done.

ENGLAND.

[From the "Morning Chronicle" of April 2, 1846.]

We can scarcely conceive anything more disgraceful than the ignorance of Ministers, when applied to on the subject of their proceedings in the River Plate. They can tell nothing, for a very good reason—because they know nothing. Sir Robert Peel is only sure we are not at war with Buenos Ayres from not having heard of any declaration of war. Of the motives for the invasion of the Parana, and the massacre at Obligado, he is ignorant because no one has ever let out to him the secret about the hides that were to be got at a dead bargain up in Corrientes. Even what the precise objects of the intervention itself were cannot be shown, for they were never defined in any convention. Each Government gave separate instructions to its own Minister. The British changed theirs in a—or rather in *the*—most essential particular. Whether the French did the same is not said. For aught we can tell, the two mediators may now be pulling different ways, one insisting on the banishment of General Oribe, the other on his installation as President. Both would be able to appeal to their instructions as the warrant for their demands.

Of course this contemptuous sort of indifference displayed at head-quarters has been reflected on the other side. There every one seems to have understood he had *carte blanche* to forward the *pacification* in his own way. The enterprising looked upon it as an opportunity for practice, and the idle for amusement. The Ministers tried their hands at intrigue, by formenting new wars and insurrections, and at merchanting in affreightment of ships, and negociations for loans. The steamers sought to improve their gunnery, by using the Buenos Ayreans as targets, at 1,500 yards distance. The mates exercised their men in the useful arts of chasing and cutting out, not over-looking even boat-loads of a few quarters of maize, and *burning* what could not be carried off. Lastly, the middies amused themselves in shooting cattle, which their two credulous imaginations took to belong to nobody. Every one from the plenipo down to the powder-monkey borrowing his cue from Lord Aberdeen, looked upon the Buenos Ayreans, and all that belouged to them, as fair game For what earthly purpose but to hunt them down had they been sent there? It was the saturnalia of *mediation*.

No matter that all this while there were scattered through both republics thousands of defenceless British subjects, and millions of British property, which to remove suddenly was as impossible as to transplant St. Paul's. No matter that of both by far the greater portion were there from an undoubting reliance on the distinct and reiterated assurances of Lord Aberdeen and Sir Robert Peel that they would not interfere by force in the affairs o those countries. No matter that from the opinion those statesmen at that time entertained of the character of Generals Rosas and Oribe, they must have considered that all this property, and perhaps even the lives of the British subjects, would be placed in the most imminent danger by their measures. No matter that they were thus affording a handle for the annulling of our treaties of commerce, which we took so much pains to make, and which our merchants used to think so great a safe-guard. No matter for all these, and other almost equally important considerations. In the ignorance, or foolhardiness, which have marked all these proceedings, they were either overlookeed or made light of. Nay more, there is every reason to fear this was not all, but that there was a distinct purpose of goading General Rosas into some violont measure of reprisals, which might be laid hold of as a pretext for acts of still more direct hostility against him. But that wary politician at once saw the trap, and how not only to avoid it, but also to turn it to his own account. The praise-worthy forbearance and moderation which he has shown have placed his cause in a position of high vantage ground, and gained for it a moral support which the mere consideration of its justice might have failed to secure. To him, far more than to their own Government, the merchants have no hesitation in acknowledging they owe it that the effects of the intervention, bad as they are, have not been much worse.

It is ludicrous to hear Sir Robert Peel repeating, over and over again, after Lord Aberdeen, how ready the Monte Video party were to accept our mediation. Why it was the very thing for which they had been praying for the last three years. The moment they saw they were going to be worsted in the contest they had provoked and commenced, they began to cast about for a protector. The more desperate their case grew, the more urgent were they for help. Pamphlets were written, and agent after agent employed to win over the support of the British or French Government. The most preposterous inventions were propagated through the press of either country, and being for the most part uncontradicted (as, in consequence of the declared determination of Government not to interfere, nobody thought it worth while to notice them) obtained credit from many. It would seem as if even Government had been, in some measure, imposed upon by them. Be that as it may, at last, just in the very nick of time, when their game was up, and they were on the point of making terms and laying down their arms, appeared Mr. Ouseley to take their part. A drowing man is not over nice as to what sort of a plank, or which end of it, is pnshed towards him. So it is only justice to these gentry to say that they made no difficulties, but accepted the mediation, as Mr. Ouseley himself expressed it, "with warmth." They did not even think of mentioning conditions. It found them poor, helpless, and despairing. Whatever came out of it, they could not be worse off. They had nothing to lose and everything to gain. So they hailed the advent of their guardian angel with acclamations, and when they learned that Lord Aberdeen was going to give them more even than they had asked for; that he had decreed that not only Oribe, but also Rivera was to be banished, and the Government vested henceforth in the Loan Company, their joy knew no bounds; and out of pure sympathy Sir Robert Peel and Lord Aberdeen go into ecstacies too, and cannot sufficiently extol the moderation of their *protegés*, nor cease to contrast with it the obstinacy o the other party who declined surrendering, at the bidding of Mr. Ouseley, the stakes they had fully and fairly won.

But this is not the only oddity in Sir Rober Peel's recent explanation, if such is to be its name. Her Majesty's Government, he says, did not interfere until the evils had become "intolerable." Intolerable, of course he means, to the British merchants and settlers; for those are the only parties for whom he can be supposed to take any active concern. How much more tolerable then to those parties has his intervention made things? We showed in a recent number, that during the worst of times the export of our manufactures to the River Plate was going on at the rate of nearly a million of pounds sterling per annum, whereas, in the first three months following the knowledge of the intervention here, it fell to £19,000, or at the rate of seventy-six thousand pounds per annum, being a falling off of upwards of *ninety per cent.* At this moment there is *one* vessel on the berth at Liverpool for both ports, Buenos Ayres and Monte Video, which has got as many goods in six *weeks* as, during the *intolerable* time, were often thrown down in the Liverpool quay for shipment in six *minutes;* and this be it remarked, notwithstanding it has been known here now for more than that time that the Parana had been thrown wide open, and that the road to Corrientes, Paraguay, and all the rest of the rich unexplored countries in central South America was free to all the world! No enterprising merchant has been found to ship, we do not say a cargo, but a single *package*, to either of the Eldorados for which Lord Aberdeen has been counselled to sacrifice a trade of thirty years' standing. So much for the effect of the intervention, as far as the merchants are concerned. How it operates upon the settlers, may be judged from the advertisement we lately published for ships to transport the poorer ones among them, at the expense of the British Government, to the Cape of Good Hope. The wealthier are not yet reduced so low, we presume, as to require removal at the public expense, but if the same system is persevered in, they, sooner or later, will be. If the former state of things, when all these men were supporting themselves in far greater comfort and abundance than falls to the share of their equals in this country, and many of them laying by money, was "intolerable," we should like much to know how Sir Robert Peel would describe the present state.

But apart from the incidents of the case, we cannot but think that Governmeut, at first setting out, committed a radical error in their policy in this matter. They started, if we may so express ourselves, on the wrong rail. Alarmed, without reason, lest we should be shut out of the Plate altogether (a thing physically impossible), they overlooked evils which were imminent and fatal. Experience has shown that the weak side of the South American republics has been the feebleness of their Executives, and the insubordinate habits of the people. None suffered more in this way than the countries situated on the River Plate. So short-lived at one time were their governments, that some of them lasted barely twenty-four hours, and a waggish foreigner used (it is said), the first thing on waking in the morning, to open his window, and inquire of the first person he saw who was governor that day. So little respect, too, had they for authority, that more lately one of their governors (General Dorrego) was shot a few days after he had been deposed, for no other reason than that he wes obnoxious to the party who had turned him out. This murder brought out General Rosas, who seemed to feel it to be his mission to try to stem this anarchical and disorganizing tendency. He declared unceasing enmity to its authors and abettors, some of whom are still to be found amongst the adherents of the Monte Video party. From that time he made it his endeavour to "construct" a strong Government. That in doing so he may have pushed his authority further than we should approve, is very probable. However, what is done cannot be undone, though what it took a long time and great pains to build up may easily be pulled down in a few hours. Though no admirers of despotism, we may venture to doubt whether it is good policy in us to embark in a crusade against it in countries which we visit merely for trading purposes. At all events, if such is to be our policy in future, we think our merchants ought to have timely wanting given them of it, that they may wind up their affairs before the storm bursts, and leave the cost free for their military successors. Those connected with the River Plate have good reason to complain of the neglect of this precaution. The present policy of Lord Aberdeen and Sir Robert Peel—*Conservative* statesmen both—seems to be to light up a fratricidal war between Paraguay, Corrientes, Buenos Ayres, and Monte Video, which, if duly tended, may last out our generation. What there is in such a system to recommend it to a "nation of shopkeepers" it will be in due time their duty to show.

[From the "Morning Chronicle" April 6th, 1846.]

Letters and papers have been received by the Apollo troop ship, from Monte Video to the 31st of January, and from Buenos Ayres to the 24th of the same month, extracts from which will be found in another part of our paper. They report the complete defeat, by the troops of the President General Oribe, of Colonel Freire, an officer who had been seduced from his allegiance, and had raised the standard of revolt in the neighbourhood of Maldonado. The assistance which the British commanders endeavoured to render him was of no avail, and the whole of his men, excepting such as fell in the action, were taken prisoners. We are happy to earn on the authority of the Monte Video papers

themselves, that the practice of *eating* their prisoners has been discontinued by the President's troops, and that, on the contrary, those that were taken in the above mentioned action were treated with humanity, and that their families, who regardless of the risk of being made a meal of, went out from the city to the camp to see them, were well received. Whether this alteration of tone indicate a consciousness on the part of the Monte Video scribes of the shamelessness of their previous impostures, or a lurking feeling that events were at hand which made it advisable for them to try to stand on better terms with their President, we shall not undertake to decide.

The news from up the river was looked upon in Monte Video as very unfavourable to the revolutionary party. The convoy up the Parana had not reached Santa Fé on the 16th January, although it was more than two months since it had left Monte Video. At this rate it will take four months or more before it reaches its destination, if indeed it ever does, which seems very doubtful. From an article in one of the Buenos Ayres papers, it would seem as if there had been some favouritism in the business, and that five or six vessels had been taken up first, whilst the bulk of the convoy (52 vessels) were kept behind. We shall be curious to learn who the lucky parties were who obtained so valuable a preference, and upon what grounds it was bestowed upon them. The expedition of Garibaldi up the Uruguay had produced no results; and of the movements of Paz and the Paraguayans nothing appears to have been known. General Urquiza had marched against them. His proclamation will be found amongst our extracts.

The whole of the remaining unsold part of the import and export duties of all the ports of the Uruguay republic for the years 1846, 1847, and 1848, had been disposed of by the inside party to the Loan Company for an inconsiderable sum. The company's servants are to collect the duties, and no fresh duty can be imposed, or alteration whatever made in the duties without the company's consent. The company is thus an *imperium in imperio*, or rather it is the *imperium* itself.

The Alecto steamer had arrived out with London dates of the 11th of December. The Monte Video papers rather pathetically remark that she carries only one gun; and, to conceal the disheartening circumstance of her bringing no word of troops being on the way, they are compelled to invent various stories to that effect, said to have been received by the way of Lisbon, Africa, &c. According to these the English Government was preparing 5,000 men, and the French 6,000. Even the names of some of the officers, regiments, and vessels of the French part of the expedition are given. Another version is, that the destination of the Madagascar expedition had been changed, and that it was to be sent to their assistance instead.

The price of flour had risen considerably in Monte Video; and we notice from our Portsmouth letter that the Apollo before sailing from the Plate, had left all the provisions she could possibly spare for the use of the squadron, and had been obliged in consequence, towards the end of her voyage home to put her own crew upon short allowance. That this should happen in a country where animal food is perhaps cheaper than in any other known part of the world, appears at first sight almost incredible, but our readers will remember that quite in the early stages of the affair we predicted that it would be so. By our unjust conduct we have so exasperated the people on both sides of the Plate, that everything flies from our contact, and though we may take or batter down everything we choose on the coast, we are unable, either by force or good will, to obtain the commonest necessaries.

In Buenos Ayres the Sala had authorized the Government to issue 2,300,000 dollars of paper money monthly whilst the blockade should last, to supply the deficit caused by the deprivation of their usual custom-house revenues. The announcement of this measure had caused exchange to fall to 2d., and of course, as the paper was put into circulation, it would fall still further. The expense of resisting our hostilities is thus ingeniously shifted by the Buenos Ayreans from their own shoulders on to those of our merchants and manufacturers, who will thus ultimately receive payment of their debts in a paper depreciated perhaps 80 or 90 per cent. below the value it bore when the debts were contracted. But that all this would happen was well known to Lord Aberdeen long ago. We ourselves predicted it many months since.

The sum total of the accounts by the Apollo is, that at the end of seven months during which Mr. Ouseley has been playing his fantastic tricks in the River Plate, he has not made one inch of progress towards the pacification which was the professed object of his mission. A great deal of bloodshed, loss of property, ruin, and misery has been effected to no earthly purpose. The power of the President, General Oribe, which was to melt away at our bidding like snow before an April sun, is proved, by the ease with which the seduction of Freire was met and his revolt put down, to be far too deeply rooted for us to overturn; and the scarcity of provisions in the squadron shows that we have gained no ground, in spite of all the powder and shot we have expended and lives we have destroyed, but that all we have done is to seize here and there a point on the coast, which is immediately isolated by the abandonment of the inhabitants and withdrawal of all the cattle and means of subsistence.

How long does Lord Aberdeen mean to persist in this senseless crusade against two Governments and nations which it only rests with him to accept anew as friends and customers? Surely this is not a time, when our manufactures are beginning to hang on hand, and employers are casting about for markets to enable them to keep their hands and machinery at work, out of mere whim to close against ourselves two markets, each of which, if we would let them, would take off three-quarters of a million or more of our manufactures annually! If his Lordship should continue much longer under this infatuation, we hope means will be found to bring him to his senses.

On Thursday last the Brazilian brigantine of war *Argos* arrived from Montevideo, bringing intelligence of the return to that port of the British transport *Apollo* with positive orders for the re-embarkation of the detachments of the 45th and 73rd, which had been diverted from their original destination.

The news received from England by the *Apollo* is to the effect, that the Argentine Minister, on the eve of asking for his passports, had a conference with Lord Aberdeen, which was of so satisfactory a nature as to induce him to suspend that step. It was generally believed that the Government had resolved to take immediate measures to put a stop to intervention in La Plata, and that France entirely occurred in the necessity of such a change of policy. Indeed, letters from Rio dated the 24th ult., state that a steamer from France had arrived there with despatches for Baron Mareuil and Baron Deffaudis, in consequence of which it was supposed that the former would come down to this river.

Nuts to crack for the Montevideo loan-jobbers.

Since the above was written H. B. M's. steamer ***Devastation*** has arrived in this port, in 42 days from England, bringing passenger Thos. S. Hood, Esq., special Minister for the settlement of the affairs of the River Plate! The ***Devastation*** left with sealed orders, and called at no ports but Porto Praia, Madeira, and Bahia, for the purpose of taking in coal.

The appointment of Mr. Hood has given universal satisfaction in this city, and little doubt is entertained but that his mission will be attended with the most happy results.

Lieut. Charles Hood, son of the Minister, and Lieut. Rooke of the steamer landed yesterday morning under a flag of truce and were kindly entertained by the Captain of the Port, who, in pursuance, we presume, of superior orders, immediately despatched a boat to the vessel with an abundant supply of fresh provisions.

Mr. Hood himself landed last evening.

At the date of the last news Rivera was at Mercedes, after having ravaged the whole coast. The inhabitants of the above mentioned town, with its small garrison, made a most gallant defence; but were obliged to succumb to the numerical superiority of the mercenary Basques. Col. Montoro and Major Moranchel, the former an Oriental and the latter an Argentine, are stated to have been killed.

The newly appointed Chargé d'Affaires of the U. S. to this Republic, the Hon. Mr. Harris, arrived here in the ***Bainbridge***, on Saturday last.

News from Europe.

A revolution has broken out in Portugal, instigated, it is said, by the Jesuits in favour of Don Miguel.

—Insurrectionary movements have taken place in Ireland, in consequence of the pressure of famine.

—There was a prospect of the peaceable settlement of the Oregon question, notwithstanding that the U. S. Senate had passed the resolution authorising the President to give, at his discretion, notice of the termination of the joint occupancy.

——The "Commercio del Plata," Montevideo Journal, states that a letter received in that city by the *Apollo* from England says that one hundred and twenty thousand militia were to be called out; they were to be divided into three classes; one to be drawn by lot, was to enter into active service and in case events should require its removal out of the kingdom it was to be replaced by the second and third in succession. It appears that the necessity of sending several regiments to India, and others to Canada, Ireland and the Cape of Good Hope, made these measures requisite.

By the Naval Registers of 1846 it appears that the naval forces of the United States consists of 11 ships of the line, 1 razee, 12 first class frigates. 6 smaller ones, 23 corvettes, 8 brigs, 9 war steamers and 4 receiving ships. There are in the fleet 67 captains, 97 commanders, 326 lieutenants, 134 surgeons and assistant surgeons, 64 pursers, 22 chaplains, 484 subaltern officers. There is 1 Colonel of Marines, 1 Lieutenant Colonel, 4 Majors, 12 captains and 40 lieutenants.

According to an official document recently submitted to the Senate of the United States of America the following is the state of the naval forces of the principal States of the world.

Great Britain has in commission 371 armed vessels carrying 4,713 guns, on the stocks 300 which will carry 15,054 guns, total 671 vessels with 19,772 guns, crews 40,800 men. In the above number 121 war steamers are included. Not included 14 sailing vessels and 22 steamers in the East India Company's service, 26 steamers in the employ of government and 72 cutters in the revenue service.

MARINE LIST.

PORT of BUENOS AYRES.

June 27.—Wind N.

Arrived, United States Brig of war Bainbridge, 10 guns, Captain Lawrence Penington from Montevideo 22nd inst.

Passengers, W. A. Harris Esq. Chargé d'Affaires from the United States to the Argentine Republic, and Mr. Francis Dominick.

June 28.—Wind W.

No arrivals or sailings.

June 29.—Wind N.

No arrivals or sailings.

June 30.—Wind E., in the afternoon changed to E.N.E.

No arrivals or sailings.

July 1.—Wind E.N.E., in the afternoon changed to W.S.W.

Arrived, Brazilian Schooner Brig of war Argos, 6 guns, Captain Gallardo, from Montevideo 29th inst.

July 2.—Wind W.S.W.

No arrivals or sailings.

July 3.—Wind W., in the afternoon changed to S.W.

Arrived, H. B. M's. steam sloop Devastation, Commander Edward Croutch, from Plymouth 22nd May. Passenger, Thomas Samuel Hood, Esq. charged with a special mission to the River Plate.

Sailed, Sardinian schooner of war Ninfa del Plata, Capt. Dequivinet, for Montevideo.

Passengers—Messrs. C. Twyford, R. Gibson, W. Turner, and 62 others.

ARRIVALS AT MONTEVIDEO.

June 20.

Portuguese sloop of war Iris, Captain J. J. P. Andrede, from Rio Janeiro.

Hamburg brig Ann, Meyer, from Newcastle 11th April.

Sardinian barque Tres Hermanos, Tricornia, from Bahia 22d May.

British brig Conqueror, Burns, from Patagonia 2d June.

Norwegian barque Napoleon, Backer, from Parnaguá 9th inst.

Sardinian barque Corebo 2d., Sicardi, from Genoa 30th March and the Canary islands 11th May.

H. B. M. Steamer Lizard, Tindal, from Colonia.

June 22.

Sardinian sloop of war Aguila, D'Anvare, from Rio Janeiro 13th inst.

H. B. M. brig Racer, 16 guns Capt. A. Reed, hence 19th inst.

June 24.

Correntino sloop Delfina, G. Costa, from Corrientes 12th May.

Correntino schooner Amistad, I. Viga, from Corrientes 20th April.

Correntino schooner Flor del Aire, A Facio, from Goya 11th May.

Correntino schooner Clarita, V. Lopez, from Corrientes 2nd May.

Oriental sloop Juanita, Escuarsafichi, from Goya 22nd April.

Oriental schooner Nueva Italia, Sifredi, from Corrientes 7th April.

Correntino schooner Isabel, M. Tesalo, from Corrientes 1st May.

Oriental sloop Lizarda, Bencigge, from Goya 17th April.

Correntino schooner Venus, C. Elena, from Corrientes 3rd April

Correntino schooner Socorro, Soueci, from Corrientes 2nd May.

Correntino schooner San Antonio, S. Sotero, from Corrientes 7nd April.

Argentine schooner Virgen Maria, C. Huggart, from Corrientes 7th April.

Correntino schooner Maria Luisa, L. Vidal, from Pilar (Paraguay) 17th March.

June 25.

Correntino schooner Josefina, Piedevile, from Corrientes 23d April.

June 26.

Brazilian brigantine of war Olinda, 10 guns Capt. Amazonas, hence.

Sardinian schooner brig El Sol, M. Meza, from St. Catherine's 17th.

Correntino schooner Relampago, F. Unea, from Corrientes 5th April.

MERCHANT VESSELS

IN THE PORT OF BUENOS AYRES ON FRIDAY LAST.

NONE.

FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR.

BRITISH.—Ship Melampus, 42 guns, Captain John Norman Campbell.

Brigantine Dolphin, 3 guns, Commander Reginal Thomas John Levinge.

Steam sloop Devastation, Commander Edward Croutch.

FRENCH—Brig Adonis, 20 guns, Capt. Colet.

UNITED STATES—Brig Bainbridge, 10 guns, Captain Lawrence Penington,

SARDINIAN—Brig Daino, 14 guns, Captain Chevalier Scaffiero.

BRIZILIAN—Schooner Brig Argos, 6 guns, Captain Gallards.

Blockade of the Port of Buenos Ayres by the combined Anglo-French squadron.

This day (4th inst.) completes the 280th day of the blockade.

THERMOMETER in the Mirador of the Commercial Room since our last:—

Saturday....................51
Sunday....................49
Monday....................50
Tuesday....................52
Wednesday....................55
Thursday....................50
Friday....................49

The Melampus, Adonis, Bainbridge and Daino fired each a salute at mid-day on the 28th ult. in honour of the anniversary of Queen Victoria's Coronation.—The salute fired on the 20th ult. was in honour of the anniversary of H. M's. accession to the throne.

The Adonis exercised musketry and great guns on the 2d inst. by firing at *a target.*

Advertisements.

Sale by Auction,

BY IBARRA & MACOME,

AT the Store No. 37½ University Street, on Wednesday 8th July, and the following days, at 11 o'clock precisely, will be sold by auction to the highest bidder, all the stock in trade of hosiery, mercery, hardware, and fancy articles, belonging to the estate of the late Don Luis de las Carreras, by order of the assignees of said estate. Particulars will be seen in the daily papers.

NOTICE is hereby given that the partnership heretofore subsisting between us, the undersigned Henry Dowse and George Dowse of Buenos Ayres, in South America, and of No. 17, Broad Street Buildings, in the city of London, merchants, was this day dissolved by mutual consent

The affairs of the firm at Buenos Ayres will be wound up by Henry Dowse of that place, on behalf of the firm, as witness our hands this twenty-fifth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty five.

(Signed) HENRY DOWSE, GEORGE DOWSE.

Witness to the signatures of the abovenamed Henry Dowse and George Dowse—

J. H. McLEOD, Solicitor,
13, London Street,
Frenchurch Street, London.

All persons indebted to the late firm of Henry and George Dowse are particularly requested to call and settle their accounts without further delay, at No. 85, Calle Potosi.

Notice.

THE subscriber has removed his Counting Room and Store from Calle de la Paz No. 56, to No. 53 of the same Street, in the house formerly occupied by Charles Horne, Esq.

Luis Winter.

Buenos Ayres, 20th June, 1846.

Wanted,

AN Apprentice to learn the Tailoring Business. Apply at 56 Calle de Piedad.

British Medical Dispensary.

THE General Annual Meeting of the British Medical Dispensary will be held in the vestry of the English Church on Tuesday, the 7th July, at 12 o'clock.

Robert McClymont,
Secretary pro tempore.

Buenos Ayres, June 26, 1846.

Warwick Inglis,

UPHOLSTERER,

No. 97, *Calle del Perú at the house of General D. Prudencio O. de Rosas.*

W. I. takes this opportuniry of returning his sincere thaks to his friends and the public, and hopes that from his long experience in business, and earnest desire to please, he shall meet with the continuance of their favours.

Elastic spring, hair, wood, and straw mattrasses made to order, old sofas chairs and old furniture repaired to look like new, curtains cut and hung to the latest fashions, easy chairs and chintz sofas made in the most approved manner and with neatness and despatch, carpeting made up.

N. B.—Blinds of every description made to order, old ones repaired to look like new, trunks made of any description.

Notice.

THE Partnership hitherto existing between George Temperley and Julius Baasch, is mutually dissolved, and all accounts against the firm of Temperley and Baasch will be settled by George Temperley, who is carrying on the business as heretofore.

GEORGE TEMPERLEY.
JULIUS BAASCH.

May 29, 1846.

George Temperley,

(Late Temperley and Baasch)

HOSIER AND HABERDASHER

No. 21, Calle de Cangallo,

BEGS leave to inform his friends and the public that he carries on the above Establishment, with a complete assortment of hosiery, &c., consisting of gentlemen's French silk hats, of the very best quality and latest fashions, silk and satin cravats, scarfs, stocks, opera ties, handkerchiefs. gloves, braces, woollen and cotton hose and half hose, childrens' do., woollen shirts and drawers, bed rugs, table covers, men and boys' cloth caps, white and coloured shirts, cloth brushes, hair and tooth do.; also a complete assortment of boots, half-boots, shoes and brogans, gentlemen's dressing cases, razors, writing desks, cigar cases, fancy walking sticks, and various other articles, all selling at the lowest possible prices.

SCOTCH WHISKEY, real Highland Blair Athol, true peat flavour.

PORT WINE, a few cases, being part of the stock of the late George Portis.

DUBLIN PORTER, in bottles, XXX from Manders and Powell, Dublin, at the Store of John Blues, Calle de la Reconquista No. 149, being the remainder of a stock, will be sold at a low price.

PRICES CURRENT.

	$		$	
Doubloons, Spanish	365	á	366	each
Do. Patriot	360	á	361	do.
Plata, macuquina	20	á	21	do. for one
Dollars, Spanish	22	á	23	each.
Do. Patriot & Patacones	22	á	23	do.
Six per cent. Stock	82	á		do. per cent.
Exchange on England	2 1/16d.			
Do. France	23	á	24	cent. per dollar
Do. Rio Janeiro	3			per ct. premium
Do. Montevideo	6	á		do.
Do. United States	nominal.			
Hides, Ox, for Engld & Germy	54	á	56	per pesada.
Do. France	47	á	50	do.
Do. North America	43	á	45	do.
Do. Spain	48	á	52	do
Do. salted	40	á	42	do.
Do. Horse	22	á	25	do. each
Calf skins	45	á	50	per pesada
Sheep skins, common	22	á	23	per dozen
Do. fine	28	á	30	do.
Deer skins	withoutprice			do.
Goat skins	do.			do
Nutria skins	4	á	4½	dol. per lb
Chinchilli skins	no price.			dol. per dozen.
Horse hair, short	40	á	45	dol. per arroba
Do. mixed	48	á	54	do.
Do. long	100	á	120	do.
Wool, common, washed	18	á	22	do
Do. picked	withoutprice			do.
Do. shorn from skins	do			do.
Do. mestiza, dirty	12	á	30	do
Tallow, pure	24	á	26	do.
Do. raw	17	á	18	do.
Do. with grease	18	á	19	do.
Jerked beef	withoutprice			per quintal.
Horns, mixed	75	á	100	per thousand
Do. Ox	200	á	400	do.
Shin bones	withoutprice			do.
Hide cuttings	7	á	8	per 100 lbs.
Ostrich feathers, white	withoutprice			per lb.
Do. black	14	á	18	do.
Salted tongues	7	á	8	per dozen
Salt, on board	none.			per fanega.
Discount	1½	á	2½	per cent. month

The highest price of Doubloons during the week 442 dollars. The lowest price 350 dollars.

The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week 2 1-8d. The lowest do. 2 1-16d.

GEORGE THOMAS, Responsible Editor.